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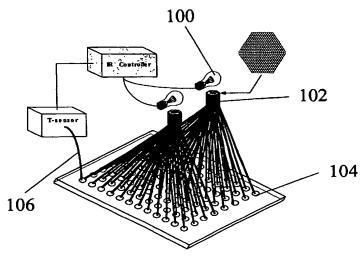
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(54) Title: METHODS AND SYSTEMS FOR MULTIPLEXING IR-MEDIATED HEATING ON A MICROCHIP



(57) <u>Abstract</u>: The present invention relates to methods and systems for rapid multiplexed heating of a plurality of small volume samples on a microchip. More specifically, the present invention relates to methods and systems for non-contact temperature cycling of the samples using infrared (IR)-mediated heating of small, micro to nanoliter, volume samples, wherein each cycle can be completed in as little as a few seconds. Depending on the system used, the present invention involves a spinning microchip or an immobile microchip having a plurality of micro-heating areas thereon. In the case of the spinning chip, the micro-heating areas are located in a circular configuration on the chip, so the micro-heating areas can be accessed by static heating source(s) by spinning the microchip. In case of the immobile microchip, fiber optics are used to direct radiation from a heating source or multiple heating sources directly to the micro-heating areas on a microchip.

